**Beginning with Compeer Financial**

***Grant Program Application***

As part of Compeer Financial’s commitment to young, beginning farmers, we are proud to offer the Beginning with Compeer Financial Grant Program. This program is available to farmers who:

* Reside in Compeer Financial’s 144-county territory,
* Have started farming no longer than ten years ago, and
* Demonstrate that farming is the applicant’s part-time or full-time vocation or that farming is the applicant’s intended vocation.

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| **PERSONAL INFORMATION** |
| Last Name: | First Name: | Middle Initial:  |
| Address (Street, City, State, Zip): |
| Phone Number: | Email Address: |
| County of farm operation: | Birthdate: |

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| **FARM INFORMATION** |
| Year began farming: |
| Annual Gross Farm Income: |
| Are you a current Compeer Financial client? Yes No |
|  If yes, please list your Financial Officer’s name: |

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| **GRANT INFORMATION** |

The Beginning with Compeer Financial grant program levels are as follows:

* Beginning farmers who are Compeer Financial loan clients with a total principal balance of $50,000 or more can receive up to $1,500 in grant funding.
* Beginning farmers who use Compeer Financial’s tax, accounting, or other related services, or have a principal balance of less than $50,000 on loans with us, or are “Next Generation” farmers who represent the next generation of a farm operation that has a lending relationship with us (for example, the daughter of a family that has loans with Compeer Financial) can receive up to $500 in grant funding.
* Beginning farmers who do not yet have any business relationship with Compeer Financial can receive up to $250 in grant funding.
* A beginning farmer whose only business relationship with Compeer Financial is the purchase of crop insurance can receive up to $250 in grant funding.

*Grant or tuition assistance funding awarded through legacy programs of Compeer Financial will be counted toward this program’s total funding.*

Grant funds can be used to pay for a variety of farm business-related expenses, including:

* Tax preparation or farm accounting services when using a Compeer Financial professional for the first time. In areas where Compeer Financial does not offer tax and accounting services, grant funds can be used to hire outside professionals for the first time using a financial professional.
* Purchase of farm accounting software.
* Tuition for courses in farm business management, accounting, or related topics.
* Registration fees for farm-related conferences or workshops.
* Fees for development of a new value-added agricultural product at a licensed food processing establishment.
* FSA guarantee fees.
* Attorney fees related to farm transition services, creation of a LLC, or other business development services.
* Other expenses not listed above may be considered for reimbursement on a case-by-case basis.

*Grant funds cannot be used to pay farm operating expenses or for purchase of equipment, including computer equipment.*

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| Grant dollar amount requested:  |
| How do you intend to use the grant funds? |
| How will the use of grant funds help your farm business? |
| At this time, are any of your expenses being paid by another third-party source, such as a scholarship, grant or donation? Yes No |
| If yes, please elaborate on the source, dollar amount and any additional information: |

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| **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** |
| Please share anything about your farm operation that would help us make a grant funding decision (i.e., crops or livestock raised, number of acres owned or rented, future plans or other information): |
| How did you hear about this program? |

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| Applicant’s Signature Date |

Please submit your application via email or mail to:

Compeer Financial

Attn: Melanie Olson Melanie.Olson@compeer.com

21088 Kewick Loop, PO Box 1219 Questions? Call 952-997-1255

Lakeville, MN 55044

*Complete grant program information and application are available at* [*www.Compeer.com*](http://www.Compeer.com)*.*

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